



**Tuesday, January 9, 2018
Regular Board Meeting
MS/HS Library Media Center, 7:00 PM**

1. Call to Order

2. Meeting Opening 7:00 p.m.

2.01 Pledge of Allegiance

2.02 Roll Call

Ms. Jean Lucasey, President; Mr. Jonathan Greengrass, Vice President; Ms. Tracy Baron; Mr. Robert Reiser; Mr. Louis Schwartz; Ms. Shannon Johnson; Ms. Rita Kennedy; Dr. Lisa Brady, Superintendent; Mr. Douglas Berry, Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction; Ms. Linda Carpenter, Interim Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Facilities and Operations; and Ms. Susan McCarthy, Deputy District Clerk.

2.03 Acceptance of the Agenda

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board accept the January 9th Agenda.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

2.04 Approval of Minutes

Mr. Schwartz moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board approve the minutes of the November 28 (as to be amended), December 5 and December 19, 2017 meetings.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

3. Announcements

The PTSA will be holding a Used Book Sale on March 15, 16, & 17. Collections have begun. Collections boxes are available at Springhurst, the Middle School and JJ Beans on Cedar Street.

4. Superintendent's Report

District:

Welcome Ron Clamser!

MS/HS Recycling

Meeting today with Greenburgh Nature Center, Dave Robertin, Kathy Weinborg, Lisa, Doug, Ron, Robert and Jesse from Springhurst and the CEO from A&A. Discussion centered on all aspects of recycling. Kick Off scheduled for January 22. All MS/HS Staff will be trained by Greenburgh Nature Center on January 17th. Students will also be trained in grade level assemblies prior to 1/22. Six new four barrel recycling systems have been ordered for the Commons and for outside of the Concession Stand along with new signage for throughout the buildings. Outside bins are being ordered for Springhurst and the MS/HS campus. Students from the Legislative Branch have been assisting with determining the number of trash receptacles in all classrooms. We have 17 teachers from the MS/HS who have expressed interest in being on the subcommittee team with Lisa.

MLK Holiday - January 15th

Winter Break - February 19-23

MINUTES

The 2018-2019 Calendar is being developed at this time. It will be shared in February.
Mr. Berry explained the new SED calculation of student days of attendance and number of minutes per day over the course of the school year.

Work Session Follow Ups:

Meeting scheduled 1/16 - student awards

Next Thoughtexchange meeting with the SCR Committee regarding Homework will be held on 1/17.

Dobbs Ferry High School

We are thrilled to share that many of our DFHS seniors have been accepted early in many colleges and universities. We are extremely proud of the accomplishments of our students as they prepare to enter the next phase of their education.

DFHS Alumni Visit: It was wonderful to welcome back members of the Class of 2017 to DFHS. The annual event provides our current seniors with insight into the college experience. A special thanks to the counseling staff for coordinating this meaningful event.

DFHS EdCamp: The DFHS Faculty participated in an EdCamp style professional development session led by the teacher leaders. EdCamp professional development allows the faculty to discuss pertinent issues in education and generates fantastic ideas for formal workshops. Great Job!

DFHS Welcomed Chris Herren! A special thanks to the Dobbs Ferry Youth Service Coalition for bringing Chris Herren to the high school for an incredibly powerful talk on following dreams and overcoming setbacks. Chris is a nationally acclaimed speaker, a former NBA player, and has been featured on many programs, including ESPN's "30 for 30." It was truly an amazing experience for all of our students!

DFHS Holiday Concert! This year's concert was a tremendous success. Thank you to all of the community members who attended this week's holiday concert! Check out the clip from the finale of a full ensemble production of "Little Drummer Boy."

IB Learner Profile Breakfast! Congratulations to all of the students who were recognized by the English Department at our IB Learner Breakfast! Students were nominated based on the qualities outlined in the IB Learner Profile.

Dobbs Ferry Middle School

Our 8th graders participated in the Chris Herren presentation organized by the Dobbs Ferry Youth Service Coalition.

Our 6th grade No Place for Hate Club visited the Cabrini nursing home and participated in arts and craft activities with the seniors

Our 8th grade No Place for Hate Club created and delivered holiday cards for our local public servants (Senior Center, Police dept, town hall, fire stations, hospital)

Our 7th grade No Place for Hate Club is making sandwiches for the Midnight Run organization

Springhurst

In August Julia Drake presented to Springhurst staff about Active Learning Spaces and raffled off a number of furniture pieces for colleagues to pilot in their classrooms with students. As such a number of staff participated and provided feedback about their experiences. Springhurst and the District have purchased a stool and a standing desk (with fidget bar) for every classroom that does not have one!

Erin Kazmierczak, a current 7th grader (and former student of Springhurst Student Government coordinator Donna Misrok) is an Ambassador for the Be a Friend (BAF) Project whose goal is to help combat bullying and strengthen victims of bullying. Student Government wrote letters of encouragement to a 5th grade boy from Pennsylvania who had been the victim of bullying.

Fifth graders participated in National Novel Writing Month in November.

Building Bridges Underway at Springhurst –

This month Building Bridges work continues in grades K, 1 and 2. A different topic will be highlighted at each grade level--

MINUTES

Kindergarten- Physically Challenged
First Grade - Blindness/ Vision Impairment
Second Grade- Deafness/ Hearing Loss
Thank you to the PTSA and the parent volunteers who have willingly dedicated their time to this program.

We are happy to be launching our third year of COMPOST KIDS. This month the kindergarten classes will participate in Compost Kids!

Annual DASA Assemblies will be held in January spearheaded by Ms. Doty.

Upcoming Events:

January 25 Grade 4 Concert (with 5th Grade Band!) - 7 pm
January 26 Colonial Day-Grade 4

Athletics:

The Dobbs Ferry Basketball program held its annual Winter Basketball Tournament over the holiday break. Four varsity boys' teams and four varsity girls' teams competing over two full days of basketball. The girls' varsity team came in first place with wins over Nanuet and Eastchester. This was a very well attended tournament especially by members of the Dobbs Ferry community.

Football Awards:

Jordan Lyerly just received 1st Team All-State Honors.
Arman Cherian-Ashe received 3rd Team All-State Honors and the very prestigious "Golden Dozen Award" for excellence in the classroom and on the field.

5. Committee Reports

5.01 Committee Reports

Facilities - 12/11

- All capital projects will be done on time
- New phone system will be on budget – voiceover IP - \$ 75,000 – 100,000
- Theatre functionality assessment – bring theatre up to kind of space we want it to be – maybe use money from capital reserve or a potential future bond - including safety issues, which are being addressed by administration

School & Community Relations - 12/18

- Discussed ThoughtExchange on homework
- Update on new platform
- Come up with new questions to ask
- Next meeting January 17 - noon

Students Athletics & Activities - 12/18

- Suggestion by student to start an Anime club – Claudia Dietrich will be the advisor.
- Varsity teams: question raised, Is it a good idea for parents to be volunteer coaches on their own children's teams? Andrew has spoken to other athletic directors within Section 1 about this. Widely believed not to be a good idea. Administration made a compelling case. Committee makes a recommendation that this become a policy.
- Rick Wolff - from Edgemont – does a radio program on WFAN. Edgemont athlete, played baseball for Harvard, played for Detroit, got into writing and publishing. One of his issues: What is happening to youth sports, both school-provided sports and the professionalization of the travel teams. Impact on children and the parent-child relationship. Andrew looking into bringing Rick in for an assembly to talk about these issues and be a resource for parents.

Curriculum & Instruction - 12/20

- Looking at data from the NYS tests 3-8 grade and the Regents.
- High levels of opt-outs make it difficult to do year-to-year comparisons
- Springhurst to Middle School transition

MINUTES

- Science progression

Personnel - 1/2

- Reviewed recommendations listed on the agenda
- Looked at resolution on the contract of hiring Ron Clamser
- The rest is confidential

Special Education - 1/2

- Reviewed CSE and CPSE recommendations
- Looked at SE numbers - largely unchanged since last year
- Settlement agreements which the Board will take action
- Talking about policy on timeout rooms and restraints
- Restraint training - EV qualified to train staff
- BuddyBall is successful
- DBT (Dialectical Behavioral Training) program ongoing in the HS - increased emotional support for some students with IEPs - more staff will be trained next year in a modified version for 2018-2019

Finance - 1/8

- Reviewing budget status report – Linda will present
- Upcoming debt payment schedule over the next few years – capital plan over next few years

6. Correspondence

None.

7. Citizen's Comments

7.01 Notice

Members of the community may comment on any matter related to district business. Any group or organization wishing to address the Board must identify a single spokesperson. Presentations should be as brief as possible and no speaker will be permitted to speak for longer than 3 minutes. It is expected that speakers will conduct themselves in a civil manner and will be ruled out of order for any statement that constitutes a direct threat against officers, employees or students of the school district, or that is obscene. Questions or comments concerning matters that are not on the agenda will be taken under consideration and referred to the Superintendent for appropriate action.

None.

*Please view the entire live streaming of the meeting on our website,
TV DFTV - Channel 77 & 47 for full details or visit the website for the video of the meeting*

8. Reports to the Board

8.01 Revised Science Path of Study

John Falino, High School Principal, and Ms. Candace Reim, High School Assistant Principal, updated the Board on a Revised Science Path of Study which included the following:

- Objectives
- Setting the Context: Reflection and Inquiry
- Opening Task and Considerations
- Feedback from All Stakeholders
- Highlights of the Proposed Progression
- Science Progression Class of 2022
 - Current 8th graders
- Science Rationale
- Science Progression Class of 2021

MINUTES

- Current 9th graders in Earth Science
- Science Progression Class of 2019 & 2020
 - Current 10th & 11th graders

8.02 Budget Status Report

Ms. Linda Carpenter, Interim Superintendent of Finance and Facilities, presented the Budget Status Report, which included the following:

- Projected Revenues at December 31, 2017
- Projected Expenditures at December 31, 2017
- Unappropriated Fund Balance
- Preliminary Recommendations

9. Board Actions

9.01 Appointment of the Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Facilities and Operations

Ms. Kennedy moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board approve the following:

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board of Education hereby appoints Ron Clamser Jr., who possesses a School District Business Leader Permanent Certificate, to the position of Assistant Superintendent for Finance, Facilities and Operations, in the Assistant Superintendent for Finance, Facilities and Operations tenure area, to serve a four (4) year probationary term, effective January 22, 2018 through January 21, 2022; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Board of Education hereby authorizes the Board President and Superintendent of Schools to execute an Employment Agreement dated January 9, 2018 between the District and Mr. Clamser, to govern his terms and conditions of employment effective January 22, 2018; a copy of said Employment Agreement, as presented to the Board at this meeting, shall be incorporated by reference within the minutes of this meeting.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

9.02 Settlement Agreement

Ms. Johnson moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board approve the following:

"**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District does hereby move to approve the Settlement and Release Agreement regarding Student No. 10009; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby authorize the Superintendent of Schools to execute such Settlement and Release Agreement on behalf of the District."

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

9.03 Settlement Agreement

Mr. Schwartz moved, and Mr. Greengrass seconded, that the Board approve the following:

"**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District does hereby move to approve the Settlement and Release Agreement regarding Student No. 12376; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Education does hereby authorize the Superintendent of Schools to execute such Settlement and Release Agreement on behalf of the District."

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

MINUTES

9.04 Settlement of a Tax Certiorari Proceeding

Ms. Johnson moved, and Ms. Kennedy seconded, that the Board approve the following:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District, hereby authorize its attorneys, Shaw, Perelson, May & Lambert, LLP to execute a Consent Order & Judgment in a tax certiorari proceeding captioned Ardsely Country Club Inc. v. Town of Greenburgh and Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District et al.;

AND IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board authorize the refund of taxes as required by the terms of the Consent Order & Judgment for a total refund of \$139,343.38.

The settlement was for the 2013-2017 years.

The way golf courses are evaluated – issue until the state legislature solves it. Jean: Group whose name I couldn't understand looking at it. Tracy: Golf courses evaluated as a pieces of land, not the improvements made to be used as a golf course.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

9.05 CSE/CPSE

Ms. Kennedy moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board approve the following:

WHEREAS the Committee on Special Education and Committee on Pre-School Special Education had issued to the Board by written confidential report dated December 18, 2017 its IEP recommendations for the students who are identified therein; and

WHEREAS the Board is responsible for arranging for appropriate special programs and services to students with IEPs, as recommended by said committee;

NOW, THEREFORE, **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Education of the Dobbs Ferry Union Free School District hereby authorize and direct the administration to immediately arrange for the special programs and services as set forth in said report dated December 18, 2017.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

9.06 Personnel

Mr. Reiser moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board approve the Administrative, Civil Service and staff personnel recommendations.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

9.06 Policy Revision - Second Reading

The Board conducted a second reading, Ms. Johnson moved, and Ms. Baron seconded, that the Board adopt the following policies:

- 2160 - School District Officer & Employee Code of Ethics
- 2330 - Executive Sessions (*as amended*)
- 4321.12 - Use of Time Out Rooms, Physical Restraints (*as amended*)

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

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10. Acknowledgements

10.01 Warrants

The Board acknowledged receipt of the following warrant:
Warrant No. 25 Multi.

11. Citizen's Comments

11.01 Notice

Members of the community may comment on any matter related to district business. Any group or organization wishing to address the Board must identify a single spokesperson. Presentations should be as brief as possible and no speaker will be permitted to speak for longer than 3 minutes. It is expected that speakers will conduct themselves in a civil manner and will be ruled out of order for any statement that constitutes a direct threat against officers, employees or students of the school district, or that is obscene. Questions or comments concerning matters that are not on the agenda will be taken under consideration and referred to the Superintendent for appropriate action.

None.

12. Old Business

The Board asked when they will be meeting with Denise Connell, the Internal Claims Auditor. Dr. Brady will send Ms. Connell an email to set this up.

13. New Business

Tennis Courts –

- The sign limits hours in the evenings. Does this make sense when the days are longer? Also, players under 16 are required to have adult supervision, why? Is this an insurance issue? Dr. Brady will investigate. It may be an insurance issue or the District has had issues with neighbors when the fields are used after a certain time.

14. Upcoming Meetings

14.01 Calendar

Tuesday, January 23, 2018 - 7:00 PM – MS/HS Library

- Democracy in Education

Tuesday, February 13, 2018 - 7:00 PM – MS/HS Library

- Proposed 2018-2019 Budget Presentation
- Special Education Update

Dr. Brady will work out something with David Shaw and Joan Natale about around financial workshop with Board – next work session date does not work for them so have to come up with another date, potentially a separate meeting that is not a regularly scheduled Board meeting.

Common Core Next Gen standards - still being vetted in field – not shared with superintendents' group.

Team from DF has been participating in TriState's Democracy in Education Political Classroom consortium with some other districts looking at issues around discussion of political issues in classrooms. Our next Work Session will involve reading a piece called "Listening to Strangers" on this issue and on the difference between deliberation and seminar in educational practice. What are the learning takeaways for both children and adults from having these kinds of conversations?

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At the Superintendents' Conference Day in August, Ms. Giselle Martin-Kniep will be the speaker and will be involved with training teachers in these strategies during the 2018-2019 school year.

Executive Session

At 9:12 PM, Mr. Schwartz moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, that the Board move into Executive Session for the following purpose: *to discuss contract negotiations.*

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

Ms. Lucasey moved, and Mr. Schwartz seconded, to appoint Mr. Greengrass as Clerk Pro Tem.

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

At 9:28 PM, Mr. Schwartz moved, and Ms. Johnson seconded, to move back to the Public Meeting.

Vote: 7 ayes - 0 nays

15. Adjournment

At 9:31 PM, Ms. Kennedy moved, and Ms. Lucasey seconded, that the Board adjourn the meeting.

Vote: 7 - ayes - 0 nays

16. Approved Minutes

16.01 Approved Minutes – November 14, 2017

Susan McCarthy
Deputy District Clerk

for
Loretta Tularzko
District Clerk